Assignment 6 – Reviewing the Literature

The goal of this assignment is to help you organize your sources and begin to synthesize the information found from your review of literature.

Part 1 Reading: The purpose of the reading is to give you a better idea of how to organize articles and resources relevant to action research.
- Read Stark (1998)

Part 2 Literature Matrix: The purpose of this activity is to use a matrix to organize the relevant professional literature.
- Complete a literature matrix (see pages 42–43 of Mills (2007)) for the sources you have found and read (include those you have critiqued in MED 599) related to your area of focus. Specifically,
  - List the authors’ names and years of the articles in the first two columns.
  - List the relevant variables of your plan of action and of the desired outcome(s) you are investigating in your action research project as column headers.
  - Indicate in the appropriate box whether the source addresses the indicated factor.

The literature matrix should be typed on a separate sheet of paper. For your convenience, a template matrix is available on Blackboard.

Part 3 Outlining the Review: The purpose of this activity is to begin the writing process of your review of literature.
On pages 40–41, Mills (2007) provides several helpful writing suggestions. The first is to make an outline.
- Write an outline for your review of literature. The outline should conform to standard outlining practices provided by that eighth-grade teacher who was right about the virtues of an outline.
  The following is one suggestion for an outline:
  A. Educational Beliefs
  B. Plan of Action
     1. First Variable
     2. Second Variable
  C. Desired Outcome
     1. First Variable
     2. Second Variable
  D. Research Question
  E. Reflection on the Literature

The outline should be typed on a separate sheet of paper.

Part 4 Technical Writing: The purpose of this activity is to practice your technical writing and provide me with an opportunity to provide feedback.
- Based on the most complete aspects of your literature matrix, write 2-3 paragraphs for two sections (or subsections) of the outline of your review of literature.
Format Requirements

- Please submit your literature matrix, the outline of your review of literature, and the 4-6 paragraphs. Be sure to references all sources cited in your matrix and your paragraphs.
- Please include a cover page with your name, the date, the course number and credit number, the assignment number, and your current area of focus.
- The file name for your assignment should be Assign06.Name where Name is your last name (e.g., Assign06.Powers)
- You may submit the assignment via Blackboard or e-mail.

Assignment Rubric

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<th>2 points</th>
<th>4 points</th>
<th>6 points</th>
<th>8 points</th>
<th>10 points</th>
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<td><strong>Did not address any aspect of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</strong></td>
<td>Addresses some but not all aspects of the prompt in a mostly satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Address some but not all aspects of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt, but some aspects are unsatisfactory.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt in a mostly satisfactory way.</td>
<td>Addresses all aspects of the prompt in a satisfactory way.</td>
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Satisfactory work includes:

- Completing the task on time
- Writing is clear and unambiguous
- Terminology is consistent with the course materials
- Answers are well-thought
- Answers are factually correct
- Opinions are supported by reason